

C1
58. (Twice Amended) A method for processing a slaughtered bird comprising breaking at least one tissue connection between the belly skin and the viscera of the bird prior to evisceration of the carcass of the bird, wherein the at least one tissue connection is broken at least partially by introducing separating means into the carcass of the bird through a hole in the skin and moving the separating means within the carcass in a plane substantially parallel to the plane of the belly skin.

C2
60. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 58, wherein the separating means is rotated within the carcass.

C3
61. (Amended) The method of claim 58, wherein the separating means is moved in a scraping manner between the belly skin and the viscera.

C4
62. (Twice Amended) A device for processing a slaughtered bird prior to evisceration of the bird comprising separating means for breaking tissue connections between the belly skin and the viscera, wherein the separating means is adapted to move in a plane substantially parallel to the plane of the belly skin.

C5
Cont.
67. (Twice Amended) A method for inserting a substantially elongated element with a free end under the skin of the belly of a slaughtered bird which is provided with a hole in the skin, comprising:

inserting a protection element through the hole and into the bird, wherein the protection element comprises a stop face adapted for pushing away the viscera from the hole;
positioning the free end of the elongated element in the hole near the stop face;
and
rotating the elongated element to insert the free end of the elongated element under the skin.

C5
Amended.

68. (Twice Amended) A device for processing a slaughtered bird, comprising:
a substantially elongated element having a free end for insertion under the skin
of the belly of the bird;
a protection element for insertion into the bird through a hole in the skin,
wherein the element comprises a stop face adapted for pushing away the viscera from the
hole;
moving means for positioning the free end of the elongated element in the hole
near the stop face and for rotating the elongated element for inserting the free end of the
elongated element under the skin.

C6

70. (Amended) The method of claim 58, wherein the hole in the skin is an
opening obtained by cutting out the vent.

Please add new claims 73-75:

C7

73. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein breaking at least one tissue
connection between the belly skin and the viscera comprises breaking at least one tissue
connection between the stomach of the bird and belly fat situated on the inside of the belly
skin.

74. (New) The device of claim 62, wherein the separating means is adapted to
break at least one tissue connection between the stomach of the bird and belly fat situated on
the inside of the belly skin.

75. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein the hole in the skin is an opening
obtained by cutting out the vent.